

Treasurer for the Western Shore, for nine hundred dollars, in payment therefor

I herewith lay before you a communication from Thomas Shriver, Esquire, late superintendent of the National Road, (Document marked K.) transmitting detailed abstracts of the tolls received, and expenditures made on the National Road from the 1st of October 1837, to the 19th of May 1838, the day on which he ceased to be Superintendent; also a communication from James Gadsden, Esquire, (Document marked L.) covering resolutions of the Commercial Convention which sat at Augusta, Georgia, in the month of October last, recommending certain measures for the promotion of a direct trade between the Southern States and Foreign Countries—also a communication from the Governor of Georgia, (Document marked M.) forwarding resolutions of the Legislature of that State, upon the subject of the refusal of the Executive of the State of Maine, to deliver up to the Executive authority of Georgia, certain fugitives from justice, who had committed felony by stealing and carrying beyond the limits of the State, slaves, the property of citizens of Georgia: also a communication (Document marked N.) from Major General Edmund P. Gaines, of the United States Army, forwarding a Diagram of his system of Rail Roads, as connected with the National defence—also a communication from the Consul of France, residing in Philadelphia, (Document marked O.) proposing an interchange of documents, relating to charitable institutions, between this State and the Administration of the Parisian Hospitals—all of which I respectfully recommend to your favorable consideration.

I also lay before you a communication from the Governor of Maine, (Document marked P.) enclosing a resolution of the Legislature of that State, calling my attention to the necessity of enforcing the laws of this State, against all persons who may be concerned in duelling within its territory, whether citizens of this State or not; and suggesting to the Legislature, the propriety of enacting further penal laws against the practice of duelling. In regard to this last communication I have to remark, that whenever official information has reached me, of violations of any of the laws of this State, in any case, in which I had the power to interfere, I have never failed to use my best efforts to cause the offenders to be brought within the jurisdiction of our courts of justice.

Fellow Citizens of the Senate and of the House of Delegates, the term for which, through the confiding indulgence of the General Assembly, I was, for the third time, elevated to the office of Chief Executive Magistrate, is about to expire—and in the course of a few days I shall retire to the shades of private life. I desire, before we separate, and in conclusion of this, my last communication, to aver that whatever errors may have been committed because of my imperfect intelligence, I have discharged the various obligations devolved upon me, by the Constitution and the laws, according to the dictates of my conscience, and my convictions of right.

Upon the deliberations of your present session, I humbly invoke